7 Instructions have been issued to the Administrative Ministries concerned to implement 54 recommendations as endorsed by the Inter-State Council. The Government is keen to complete action on the pending recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission at the earliest.

[Translation]

Ganga Action Plan

3227. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL :
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outcome of the scheme to make the Ganga free from pollution is unsatisfactory during the last five years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the projects taken up during the said period;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(e) whether any action has taken by the Government to remove the shortcomings noticed in the scheme for making Ganga free from pollution;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the funds for Ganga Action Plan-I, have been embezzled to a large extent in some States; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) As a result of completion of 251 schemes of pollution abatement out of 261 schemes sanctioned under the Ganga Action Plan, the river water quality in terms of the bio-chemical oxygen demand has shown improvement all along the river except at Kanpur. Even at Kanpur, the bio-chemical oxygen demand has improved from 25.0 mg/l in 1992 to 5.8 mg/l in 1997 against the desirable standard of 3 mg/l of 'Bathing Class'. The year-wise date of bio-chemical oxygen demand of river water during the period from 1992 to till date monitored at 16 monitoring stations along the river are given in the Statement attached. The improvement in river water quality at Kanpur has not been upto the desirable level as nearly 200 million litres per day of sewage which could not be tackled up under the Ganga Action Plan-I has now been taken up under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II.

(c) and (d) Additional pollution abatement works in 59 towns on the river Ganga have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 713.05 crores during the period from July, 1995 to October, 1996. An expenditure of Rs. 9.24 crore towards the 50% Central share has been incurred on this programme so far.

(e) and (f) Lessons learnt and experience gained from the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I have been used to formulate the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II so that the shortcomings of the former are removed. Difficulties faced by the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in providing adequate funds in time for operation and maintenance of assets created under the Ganga Action Plan have been reported. Difficulties faced by all the three States namely; Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal in providing their 50% matching share in the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II were also reported. To overcome these difficulties, the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II has been made a 100% funded Centrally Sponsored scheme as against its present funding pattern of 50:50 between the Central Government and the State Governments. The State Governments have also been asked to ensure provision of adequate and timely funds for operation and maintenance of assets.

(g) and (h) Diversion of funds released for the Ganga Action Plan have been reported from time to time to in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. At present, an amount of Rs. 2.47 crores is pending reconciliation in Uttar Pradesh and an amount of Rs. 0.91 crores is to be recouped by the Government of Bihar.

Statement

Summer average values for water quality on main stem of river Ganga under Ganga Action Plan

Station Name	Distance	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) (mg/l) (Acceptable limit less than 3 mg/l)					
	in km.	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997**
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rishikesh	0	1.2	1.3	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.1
Hardwar D/S	30	2.0	1.4	2.1	1.7	1.1	1.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Garhmukteshwar	175	NA	1.6	2.5	2.4	1.5	1.7
Kannauj U/S	430	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.9	3.4
Kannauj D/S	433	2.7	2.5	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.5
Kanpur U/S	530	1.7	1.9	5.0	2.0	2.8	4.2
Kanpur D/S	548	25.0	24.5	8.5	5.5	4.1	5.8
Allahabad U/S	733	2.0	1.8	2.3	4.5	2.5	2.0
Allahabad D/S	743	1.9	1.9	3.6	3.2	3.3	2.3
Varanasi U/S	908	0.9	0.8	1.8	2.6	2.2	2.1
Varanasi D/S	916	1.3	1.0	2.9	1.4	2.3	3.3
Patna U/S	1188	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.5	2.0	2.1
Patna D/S	1198	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.3
Rajmahal	1508	0.6	0.7	1.9	1.7	1.3	1.9
Palta	2050	1.0	0.9	2.5	2.1	1.6	2.8
Uluberia	2500	1.0	0.9	3.2	2.8	2.0	1.9

** Average of only two months in the summer period.

Wild Animals in Zoos

3228. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in several national parks and various zoos of the country the wild animals are negligible in variety;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to keep all sorts of wild animals in all the zoos?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All types of wild animals can not be housed and displayed in every zoo. The number of species to be displayed in a zoo is decided taking into consideration the climate of the place where zoo is located and the infrastructure for upkeep and health care of animals.

National Grape Research Centre

3229. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: